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EDITORIAL

The people and their army will frustrate the AFP's bloody war

Ferdinand Marcos Jr's newly appointed chief of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) recently ordered the stepping up of the tempo of its operations against the New People's Army (NPA). "If we can finish immediately" the revolutionary armed struggle is the supposed objective of the order.

This intensification of AFP operations will lead to worse state terrorism, tyranny and oppression of the masses. This combines with battalion-sized operations against the people's army marked by relentless aerial bombings and shelling. This is now the sixth year of the AFP's all-out offensives that started as the AFP's Oplan Kapayapaan later evolving as Oplan Kapanatagan with the Philippine National Police (PNP).

In accordance with the demented strategy of "drying the sea to catch fish," fascist troops unleashed brutal campaigns of pacifications, repression, psywar and espionage against peasants and minority people. It aims to cripple people with fear and crush their spirit of resistance to force the masses to give up their rights and aspirations.

Contrary to the laws of war, armed soldiers occupy hundreds of civilian communities and force people to submit to their rule. They sow disunity among the masses to make them easier to suppress. They restrict people's movements including limiting the amount of rice that people buy or setting the hours or days that farmers can work on their field.

The AFP targeted legal mass organizations and their leaders, whom it accused of having links to the armed revolutionary movement. This is to justify armed suppression of civilians and their rights. On the dead of night, fascist soldiers raid peasant homes, interrogate people and force them to "admit." Cases of murder, abduction, and torture run rampant to make the people kneel before the military's power.

For five years, the AFP paraded more than 20,000 "surrenderees," accused of being NPA members (although they first said the people's army was 4,000-strong). With a budget of ₱65,000 each, the government poured over ₱1.3 billion in the psywar scheme. In the concrete, these people received a few kilos of rice and canned goods. With the size of this loot, as well as with the budget to construct roads, the AFP is subjecting villagers to intense pressure and violence.

The AFP is utterly wrong in thinking that they can crush the masses will to fight. In fact, they are merely planting profound hate in the heart of the masses. Many whom the fascist soldiers forced to kneel and bow are now driven by the

desire to rise up and look up, assert their honor, and defend their rights and livelihood.

Throughout the country, many of them have maintain clandestine links with the people's army to take part in defense and resistance to fascist tyranny. The number of people wanting to join the NPA continues to grow.

In recent years, the NPA in general has overcome and frustrated the AFP's major offensives nationwide. This shows that support of the Filipino peasant masses and people for the NPA remains deep and widespread. This strengthens the commitment and determination of the Red fighters to persevere with the path of armed revolution despite all the hardships and sacrifices.

All units of the NPA are thoroughly strengthening the unity of the masses and their army. While consolidating existing revolutionary mass organizations and the party branches, guerrilla fronts are being further expanded or new ones are being established. Thus, the NPA gains additional points to launch tactical offensives, forcing the AFP to stretch thin its forces and expose its weak parts.

Waging agrarian revolution to fight various forms of feudal exploitation is key to the unity of the masses and the people's army. The struggle to lower the land rent, eliminate usury and get reasonable farmgate prices must be strengthened. Carrying out the revolutionary land reform program firmly binds the people's army and masses.

Guerrilla warfare must be heightened and expanded to defend the masses against the enemy's armed attacks. The capability of militia units to launch tactical offensives must be raised in order to galvanize widespread mass armed resistance. The NPA, for its part, should continuously recruit hundreds of new Red fighters, launch political-military trainings, maintain high discipline, and strengthen itself ideologically.

While waging mass struggles in the cities, workers, students and professionals should also support the antifeudal and antifascist struggles in the countryside. They should help the peasant masses bring their problems and struggles to national and international attention. They must go directly to the fields to participate in the antifeudal movement, as well, in the armed struggle.

Amid worsening crisis marked by rising prices of food and commodities, and extremely low wages and income of workers and peasants, the toiling masses are increasingly mired in hardship and hunger. The situation in the countryside is further aggravated by widespread land grabbing by foreign capitalists supported by the fascist military.

The crisis of the ruling semicolonial and semifeudal system is fertile ground for the armed revolution. The NPA and the Filipino masses, thus, face the great challenge to fight, frustrate and overcome the intensification of the counter-revolutionary war under the Marcos regime, and advance the national-democratic aspirations of the Filipino people. AB



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Sham surrenders fail to pull the people away from the revolution

The Southern Luzon Command (Solcom) of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the Philippine National Police (PNP) in Calabarzon (Cavite-Laguna-Batangas-Rizal-Quezon) and Mimaropa (Mindoro-Marinduque-Romblon-Palawan) boast of their claimed big number of "surrendered" members of the New People's Army (NHB), people's militia, revolutionary mass organization and cadres of the Party in Southern Tagalog (ST). They brag with hands bloodied by their widespread violations of human rights and sowing fear and anxiety in communities.

In 2021, 368 cases of forced surrender were reported in the ST region. Before "surrendering," victims were subjected to threats, intimidations and deception by soldiers and colluding or coerced local officials.

This was experienced by residents of Baryo Matatag in a guerilla front in ST built on the foundations of agrarian revolution victories. Under the Duterte regime, campaigns of "surrender" and psywar in the area intensified.

Some whom the enemy bribed where used as spies against the Red army and village revolutionary organizations. This led to suppression against the village folk and some encounters between the AFP-PNP and the NPA.

Criticism and recovery

After the concerned Party Committee assessed the status of Baryo Matatag, it immediately took the initiative to recover the village and reactivate its organizations. It took as guide the Party's instruction that when the people are involved, non-antagonistic means of resolving contradictions must be adopted, and painstaking political work and criticism, carried out.

An NPA unit was dispatched to recover Baryo Matatag. The Red fighters were especially cautious, knowing the impact of fascist psywar and slander against the people's army. They knew the enemy had poisoned the minds of the residents to make them lose confidence in the army.

"What the enemy wants is to use you against your comrades and your neighbors," the comrades explained. At the same time, they made it clear that anyone who cooperated with the enemy in intelligence and fighting the revolutionary movement and people will have to account for their actions. They have to face their case in the people's court. However, the comrades also differentiated between serious and light offenses against the people and the people's government.



The comrades explained the justice system under the people's government, the basis of the defendants' case and their punishment. Many of those known to have cooperated with the enemy but who humbly admitted guilt and sincerely repented were given room to change. The people welcomed the approach of the comrades and fully embraced the decisions.

Rectification

Baryo Matatag's experience in agrarian revolution served as foundation for rectification in the village. The army and the people reviewed together their struggle for land and the fruits of their victories. It was during the 1980s when the struggle was launched by the peasant masses in Baryo Matatag to reclaim their land.

The NPA and the villagefolk acted as partners in dealing with the armed goons and the military commanded by the landlord. "If it wasn't for agrarian revolution, we wouldn't be able to feed our families," one senior resident added. "The few thousands and the enemy's promises of projects are nothing compared to the farm lands we have worked so hard to fight for."

Agreeing to the decision of the people's court, some of those found guilty were given a second chance. As "punishment," they were told to surrender their land to the organization and work in the village's communal farm. They will participate in collective farming as part of the remoulding.

The work of the people's court pulled down the wall which, for a time, seemed to exist between Baryo Matatag and the NPA. Everyone played their part to pave the way for the rectification of those with weaknesses and guilty.

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NPA-Northern Samar foils 803rd IBde attacks

NEW PEOPLE'S ARMY (NPA)-Eastern Visayas reported a series of armed actions launched by its units against the 803rd IBde from April until July.

Last April 3, NPA fighters ambushed a police counterinsurgency unit in Barangay San Miguel, Las Navas. Three policemen died while four were wounded.

A day earlier, the NPA attacked a unit of the 3rd IB in Barangay Lakandula, Las Navas. Two soldiers were killed. Last May 10, the commander of the troops conducting Retooled Community Service Program in Barangay San Francisco, Las Navas was killed in a special operation conducted by the NPA.

In the same town, units of the NPA successfully countered and outmaneuvered the AFP in encounters last June 3 until 22. Soldiers sustained not less than 14 casualties. AB

4 nuns and 12 others, accused of "funding terrorism"

FOUR NUNS OF the Rural Missionaries of the Philippines, a lawyer and 11 others were charged last August 17 by the Department of Justice (DoJ) of "funding terrorism." The accused are Mary Louise Dumas, Maridel Solomon Fano, Hanelyn Caibigan Cepedes, Emilio Gabales, Ma. Fatima Napoles Somogod, Evelyn Lumapas Naguio, Jhona Ignilan Stokes, Melisa Amado Comiso, Aldeem Abroguena Yanez, Aileen Manipol Villarosa, Czarina Golda Selim Musni, Angelie Magdua, Sister Augustina Juntilla, Sister Maryjane Caspillo, Sister Emma Teresita Cupin and Sister Susan Dejolde. Musni serves as secretary of the Union of People's Lawyers in Mindanao. The DoJ has not released any document regarding these accusations based on testimonies of two "witnesses."

In the island of Negros, military forces continue to wreak havoc. Elements of 94th IB killed a farmer and a resident of Sitio Bulasot, Barangay Buenavista, Himamaylan City, Negros Occidental last August 8.

AFP troopers also displaced the members of the Maghat-Bukidnon tribe in the barangay and illegally occupied their homes. They also harassed minors and children and accused them of being children of Red fighters.

In Negros Oriental, Roldan Baydal, a habal-habal driver and a farmer in Sitio Punong, Barangay Trinidad, Guihulngan was illegally arrested last August 9. In separate incidents in the same city, elements of 62nd IB indiscriminately fired their weapons at Boyet Cezar, Marjhun Mahinay, Onil Gonzaga and Jercel Gonzaga last August 16 and 17 and ransacked the house of Lary Gelia. In Moises Padilla, the house of Ronnie Pasid was also raided.

In Northern Samar, Enriquetta Toling, a known survivor of the Sag-od Massacre and a resident of Barangay Sag-od, Las Navas was illegally detained. She was among the 22 residents required by the military to report to their camp before the incident. AB

From page 3

Studies, production work and medical services were launched even amid intense military operations. The mass organization was also revitalized and the people were able to carry out revolutionary tasks.

News of Baryo Matatag's victory spread to other villages. It wiped out the fear of the people who were forced to "surrender" and boosted their confidence to come to the NPA. In fact, members of an AFP-PNP-built organization in an adjoining village voluntarily approached the Red army to self-criticize. AB

March to commemorate Day of the Indigenous Peoples. To commemorate the International Day of Indigenous Peoples last August 9, various groups of national minorities marched to the office of National Commission on Indigenous Peoples in Quezon City. They slammed the relentless illegal arrests, torture and killings of indigenous peoples.

March against Golden Rice in Panay. Environmental and health organizations staged a picket at the local office of Department of Agriculture in Iloilo City to oppose plans to use and propagate golden rice in the island.

In Bicol, an alliance against Golden Rice was launched, the SIKWAL-GMO (Bicol Alliance against GMO) last August 8 in Naga City. According to the participants, only transnational corporations benefited from golden rice.

Picket in Supreme Court. A picket was held during the filing of a petition for a Writ of Amparo in the Supreme Court on August 10. Family members of abducted activists and organizers Elizabeth "Loi" Magbanua, Alipio "Ador" Juat, Elgene Mungcal, and Ma. Elena "Cha" Cortez Pampoza, trooped to the court.

Protest against US intervention. Progressive groups went to Mendiola, Manila last August 6 in line with the meeting in Malacañang between US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken and Ferdinand Marcos Jr. They called for the scrapping of unequal treaties between the Philippines and the US such as the Visiting Forces Agreement and the Mutual Defense Treaty that undermine the country's national sovereignty.

Bombing and shellings also plague nature

The 303rd IBde of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) formally withdrew on August 8 its plan to do a "bomb test" in Mt. Mandalagan near Barangay Minapasuk, Calatrava in Negros Occidental. This was after residents and the local office of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), as well as some local government officials, disagreed with the plan. The said mountain is part of the Northern Negros Natural Park (which has a total area of 80,454.5 hectares), a protected area where many species of animals and plants that can only be found on the island live.



In other parts of the country, AFP bombings and shelling destroy protected and unprotected biodiversity centers or areas that have rich mineral resources, forests, plants and animals. Found in these areas are endangered birds and other animals, as well as plants that can only be found in the country. Many minority communities live off its forest resources. They are also the watershed or source of water for the surrounding municipalities and cities.

There have been many studies not only on the harmful effects of bombings, but also of the frequent flying of drones, on forests and its inhabitants. In addition to the damage that bombs cause to civilian communities, the noise of planes, helicopters and surveillance drones (which are often in the air for several hours) disturbs the natural cycle of wild animals, especially birds. This violation is against the citizen's right to a balanced and healthy ecology.

Narrow protection

In total, just over 7 million hectares of land, rivers and oceans are considered protected in the Philippines. Vast key biodiversity centers are unprotected due to the interest and operations of foreign and local plunderers. Even areas that were declared protected have been eroded and destroyed by large-scale capitalist logging and mining in the last century. Areas of biodiversity that still hold old forest growth are rare.

Among these areas is the Samar Island Natural Park which has an area of 335,105 hectares and covers the mountainous areas of Las Navas and Catubig. In 2019, the AFP dropped bombs near Mt. Capotoan that shook the ground and left a 100-meter-wide hole.

In Mindanao, a large number of bombings reported in Ang Bayan were carried out in different parts of Mt. Pantaron (area: 1.24 million hectares). Here lies one of the largest remaining old-growth forests in the country. This mountain range is not protected by law despite proposals and calls for it, including calls from minorities in Talaingod, where 6,000 hectares of old forest can still be found.

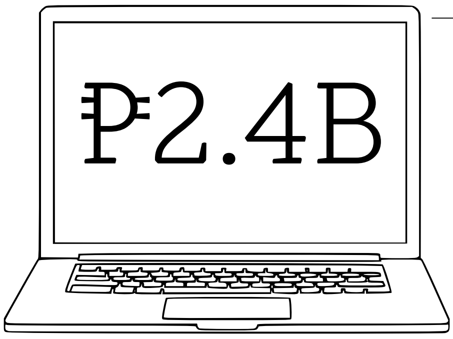


In Bukidnon, the NTF-Elcac boasted the burning of the top of one of the mountains of Mt. Tago (area: 13,341 hectares) in a series of AFP bombing in November 2021. Three more mountains (Mt. Kimangkil, Mt. Lumot and Mt. Tangkulan) were bombed by the AFP at different times. There have also been proposals to declare these mountains (combined area: 43,835 hectares) as protected and extension habitat of the protected Mt. Kitanglad (47,234 hectares) and Mt. Kalatungan Range (22,225 hectares). In Misamis Oriental, the Mt. Balatukan Range (8,437 hectares) has not escaped unscathed from military bombings and rampages.

In the Davao region, three protected areas (Mt. Hamiguitan, Mainit Hotspring Protected Landscape and Aliwagwag Protected Landscape) cover parts of the Compostela Valley (Davao de Oro). In Bangsamoro areas, the AFP also repeatedly bombarded and shelled Liguasan Marsh and the mountains of Mt. Daguma in the Sultan Kudarat area.

In Luzon, in 2017 the 202nd IBde and 730th Combat Group bombed Mt. Banoi, a critical watershed area that is Batangas' main source of water. In Cagayan, the indigenous communities of Mt. Cagua which is at the northernmost tip of the Sierra Madre were bombed. AB

IN SHORT



spent by the Department of Education for **39,583** low-end laptop computers at **₱58,300** each. Such computers are only worth **₱15,000-₱22,000 each**.

₱1.87T

estimated worth of the Marcos wealth in 2021, considering that they held $5 billion in 1986.



126,172

packages of food, medicine and other donations found rotting in the DSWD's storage that were meant for victims of typhoon Ulysses in 2020.

1.3 MILLION

poor families dropped by the new DSWD secretary from the **4Ps** after supposedly "graduating" from poverty.

Source: *Ibon Foundation*

#UnBlockTheTruth

clamor to repeal the order of the National Telecommunications Commission that blocks the websites of alternative media outfits and others.



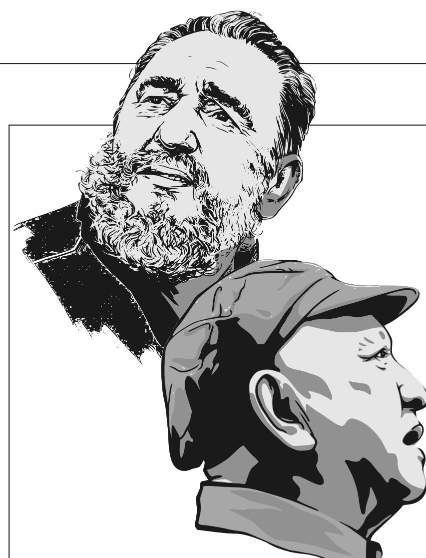
₱80/day

or **₱12,030 a month for a family of five** is the poverty threshold set by the state. Despite setting the bar very low, the number of people considered poor increased from 17.6 million in 2018 to 20 million in 2021.

186

number of Philippine languages, **46 of which are in danger of becoming extinct, while 2 are already dead**.

Source: *Summer Institute of Linguistics, 2022*



Fidel & Fidel

former negotiating chief of the National Democratic Front of the Philippines Fidel Agcaoili was born on August 4, 1944, while Fidel Castro, former head of the Cuban revolution, was born on August 13, 1932.

Desaparecido: those who disappeared in the darkness of martial law

The International Day of the Disappeared will be commemorated on August 30. This is the day for remembering the thousands of activists and so-called "enemies of the state" who were detained and "disappeared" by state forces as strategy of governments to sow terror across society.

According to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, forced detention can be considered a crime against humanity if they are carried out as part of a widespread or systematic attack against the civilian population. Thus, the validity of the cases against those who committed the crimes does not lapse, and relatives of victims have the right to seek the truth and demand compensation.

In the Philippines, hundreds were abducted and forever disappeared under Ferdinand Marcos Sr's martial law. The Redemptorist Church in Baclaran, Pasay City recorded more than 500 victims, while 783 are in the records at the William S. Richardson School of Law Library at the University of Hawaii. It stores records of human rights violations of 101,458 victims under martial law by the Marcos dictatorship, including 70,000 imprisoned, 35,000 subjected to various forms of torture, and 3,256 killed or "salvaged" (including 2,520 who suffered brutal forms of execution).

First desaparecido and others

The first case of desaparecido (the Spanish term for "disappeared" or lost) occured before martial law. Military agents abducted Charlie del Rosario on March 19, 1971. Del Rosario is one of the founders of Kabataang Makabayan (KM) and instructor at the Philippine College of Commerce (now Polytechnic University of the Philippines). Information gathered said he was thrown to the sea from a helicopter similar to the "Operation Condor" in Latin America in 1968 directed by the US Central Intelligence Agency.

Also, Leticia Pascual-Ladlad, one of the founders of the UP Cultural Society at the University of the Philippines-Los Baños in Laguna (UPLB) before becoming a member of the Samahang Demokratiko ng Kabataan (SDK or Youth Democratic Society), was an active member of the College Editors' Guild of the Philippines. She was last seen in November 1975.

Ronald Jan F. Quimpo was an organizer of youth and students who once dreamed of becoming a scientist or an engineer. But that changed after he graduated from Philippine Science High School and enrolled in UP. He was last seen on October 29, 1977.

"Southern Tagalog 10"

Most known among the cases of disappearances was the so-called "Southern Tagalog 10." They were ten activists aged 20-25 who were abducted by state agents in July 1977 at Makati Medical Center in Metro Manila. According to the account of Bonifacio Ilagan, a convenor of the Campaign Against the Return of the Marcoses in Malacañang (Carmma), this was one of the biggest cases of forced disappearance and murder in the history of Marcos Sr's martial law.

Among the ST 10 are Cristina Catalla, Gerardo "Gerry" Faustino, Rizalina Ilagan, Ramon Jasul, Salvador Dangeran, Jessica Sales, Emmanuel Salvacruz, Virgilio Silva, Modesto "Bong" Sison and Erwin de la Torre. Sales and Ilagan are UPLB students and members of KM and Panday Sining. Ilagan, Boni Ilagan's sister, left university when martial law was declared and became a community organizer.

Some of the desaparecidos in the 1970s who were found and freed were among those who filed a lawsuit against the dictator and his property. Among them were Elisa Tita Lubi (abducted in June 1975 with Juan Andres Buenaventura and Johannes Baroso) and Adora Faye de Vera (abducted with Flora Coronacion and Orlando Fidores in October 1976). In 1995, they were among those awarded a US court with $766 million in damage. AB



Continuing Lumad and Moro resistance

The worst case of plunder of forests of Far South Mindanao took place under martial law. Ferdinand Marcos Sr. awarded hundreds of thousands of hectares to his close friends through the government's Timber License Agreement.

Some of those awarded with concessions are Mindanao Lumber Development Company or Miludeco (32,575 hectares in South Cotabato), Greenbelt Wood Products (45,440 ektarya sa Sultan Kudarat) and D.M. Consunji Inc. (DMCI, 150,000 hectares in Daguma Range which borders the provinces of South Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat and Maguindanao.) These concessions cover the ancestral lands of the Moro people, and the B'laan and T'boli Lumad in South Cotabato, and the Tiruray, Dulangan-Manobo and Lambiangan in Sultan Kudarat and Maguindanao. Miludeco is owned by the Antonino family while Greenbelt is owned by Narciso Ramos, father of Gen. Fidel Ramos. Meanwhile, David M. Consunji served as a cabinet member and crony of the dictator.

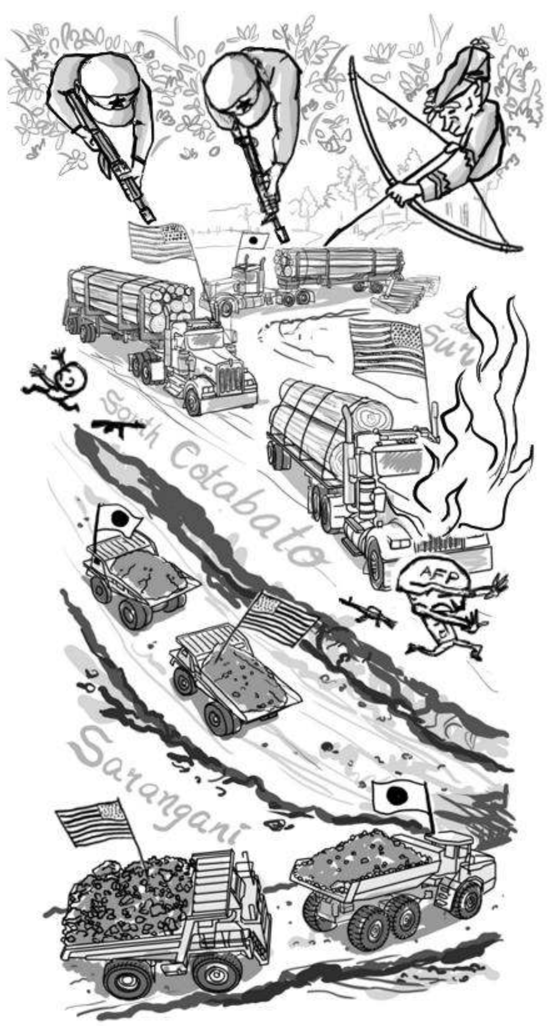
The logging operation paved the way for mining in T'boli and several areas in the Daguma Range. The DMCI brazenly plundered the mines and treasure heritage of ancient tribes found in the caves and some sacred lumads sites in the Daguma mountains.

For decades, the largest logging operation in the region has concentrated on the vast mountains along the borders of Davao del Sur and South Cotabato. The largest of the five companies operating here was Habaluyas Logging Co. The company attempted to encroach on the B'laan territory but was met with resistance by the large clans in Salnaong, Bong Mal and S'banken.

Working with the units of the New People's Army (NPA) operating in the area, the tribe's unity was strengthened in the face of intense military operations. Companies were forced to negotiate and pledge to stop military intervention. The tribes were able to prevent the deforestation of the remaining forests in their ancestral lands.

Soon after, the Davao Eastern Mining Corporation was evicted from Alabel in 1989. The B'laans in Malapatan also recovered more than 500 hectares of land that were seized and controlled by bureaucrat Pedro Acharon for more than a decade.

By the 1990s the T'boli uprising had flared up against the oppression and tyrannical rule of businessman Nocum. The Nocum family claimed the tribe's land in Lakag for more than two decades. During this time, massacres and killings of Lumads took place to force them out of the area. The guidance and support of the revolutionary movement served as a firm foundation for the T'bolis. In the face of violent confrontations and military persecution, the uprising attracted widespread public and church support. The T'bolis succeeded in stopping the ranch and hacienda operation and the businessman was eventually evicted from the area.



The uprising in Lakag inspired the growing opposition against mining in Kematu by powerful bureaucrats and the ruling class. The NPA attacked the mine in cooperation with the masses. It disarmed the guards and destroyed the illegally constructed cyanide plant and other facilities. From the 1990s to 2015, the Lumads' struggle against the Tampakan gold-copper project intensified. Legal democratic mass actions played an important role in waging a massive anti-mining campaign. At the same time, the people's armed uprising intensified, as well as the NPA's punitive actions against the company and its military guards.

The Lumad and peasant movement also thwarted the Arroyo regime's intention to open vast lands in Davao del Sur and Sarangani for jatropha (*tuba-tuba*) plantations.

In some places in Sultan Kudarat, the Lumads gained remarkable strength and enthusiasm under the guidance of the revolutionary movement. The Dulangan-Manobo, Tiruray and Moro groups re-launched their fight against Consunji's land grabbing and exploitation. The legal movement and campaign against DMCI logging and mining operations flourished. The NPA and the people's armed uprising also combined in launching a military campaign to defend the ancestral land and the interests of the masses. AB

Oppression of the Adivasis of India

The new forest law being pushed by the Narendra Modi regime will bring about widespread grabbing and dislocation of the Adivasis or the indigenous peoples of India. This will add to the national oppression and exploitation being suffered by the Adivasis including genocide, illegal arrests and attacks under anti-insurgency campaign of India's reactionary central and state governments (equivalent to a region in the Philippines).



The Modi regime, in a proposal submitted on June 28, promotes the "ease of business" for big companies in mining, logging and other businesses in India's forests. It wants to expedite the process of obtaining "permits" for companies to enter forests.

The ancestral land of the Adivasi is rich in iron, copper, gold, zinc, lead, manganese, chromite and bauxite. Large parts of their forests are source of timber, coal and woods. It is also used for grazing and serves large plantations.

Multinational companies Adanis and Ambanis are among those who will benefit from India's "easing of business."

Such a bill would remove the remaining legal rights of Adivasis and communities to defend their ancestral lands and forests. With the proposal, permission of *gram sabhas* (assembly of communities) will no longer be required to gain entry to their lands and forests. The bill aims to form a national committee that would facilitate the approval of a project that would then be submitted to state governments for processing.

The new law, in fact, only cemented and completely rendered moot the previous laws that were toothless in ensuring the rights of Adivasis. In 2019, out of 240 projects submitted to the central government, 193 were recommended by the current review committee. It covers 9,220.64 hectares of forest for road construction, train, mining, irrigation, infrastructure and other projects.

Layers of exploitation

More than 8% of India's total population (104.2 million or almost the size of the Philippine population) are Adivasis. They are national minorities composed of indigenous tribes, majority of whom reside in Central India. The Adivasis live in forests (which is a quarter of the entire territory of India) on which they heavily rely on for livelihood. Their rights have long been disregarded and sidelined by Hindutva (Hindu nationalist) and Brahmanic (highest level in caste system or social status in India) regimes.

The reactionary state has long been implementing a genocide against the Adivasis. In the conservative record of the country's National Crime Records Bureau, there were 76,899 crimes against the Adivasi from 2011-2020. These include cases of rape, physical abuse and murder. Among these is the massacre of 15 civilians by state forces in Nulkatong, Sukma district, Chhattisgarh on August 2018.

On July 2021, the Madhya Pradesh government, a region in central India, evicted the indigenous communities of Bhil and Barela from their land. Recently, indigenous communities from Chhattisgarh to Andhra Pradesh were also evicted to facilitate infrastructure projects that are of no use to them.

In some places, police forcefully set up camps which systematically violate the human rights of Adivasi. Camps are being set up in Parvatpur in Giridih district of Jharkhand, Silinger of Bijapur-Sukma districts and other areas.

In addition, the central and state governments are weaponizing the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and other laws to harass, attack and suppress not only the Adivasis but also groups and individuals supporting them. They are being kept to rot in Indian jails for long periods of time.

These have intensified under the Brahmanic Hindutva (fascism against minority religions and lower social groups) regime of Modi. Adding insult to injury, Modi's dominant Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) recently elected Draupadi Murmu who is an Adivasi as the president of the country. This is to cover up his crimes of successive killings, attacks and genocides of the Adivasi.

Faces of crisis and resistance in China

Even with the slogan "socialism with Chinese characteristics," the different faces of crisis and suffering and resistance by the masses of workers and toiling people continue to emerge one after another under the country's capitalist system.

Education for big capitalist interests

On June 4, 2021, students began a protest movement against the policy of transforming private academic universities into vocational schools. National colleges are also known as technical skills schools (like the Philippines' TESDA). This policy began to be implemented in 2014 to meet the needs of companies with projects in other parts of the world.

Students objected to this because no consultation took place, and most especially because they see it as a further deterioration in the quality of education since capitalism was restored in the country.

Students first launched protests in two provinces, followed immediately by six others in the following days. Thousands of students participated in rallies and calls for boycott in just a few days. In the June 2021 actions, many were beaten and detained, charged and accused of using illegal drugs. As with other protesters, they are accused of conspiring with foreigners.

The latest student protest movement is significant because it is said to be the largest since the student-led protests on June 4, 1989 which led to the Massacre in Tiananmen.

Slavery amid Covid-19

In May, two workers' uprisings against oppression were reported at an electronics factory in Shanghai, China's largest and most prosperous city.

In response to the continued spread of Covid-19 in the country, the government implemented "closed loops" on factories—banning workers from leaving the workplace in order to continue production. However, these did not prevent infections. In addition to the restrictions on mobility, workers were also unjustly paid during their confinement in the factory, and food and other supplies were lacking. Even before this policy, the average wage of workers in Shanghai was below the minimum. This led workers to fight their guards, even the goons sent by the company.

Because the scope of the workers' detention is not confined to Shanghai, it is believed many other factories in the country are ripe for protest.

The following month, workers in sanitation and garbage collection protested. They blocked a street in the city of Changge in the province of Henan to protest the non-payment of their wages. The police immediately attacked the workers, who fought back valiantly.



Abusive banks

A series of protests also took place in Henan from April to July. Depositors trooped to the banks after news broke that they would no longer be able to withdraw their savings. In the July protests, more than 1,000 participated. And like many others, a large number of police officers and goons violently broke the protest. Many of the depositors were also marked with Covid-19 to stop them from coming out and protesting.

Initially affected by this series of "bank runs" are four banks covering an estimated 400,000 accounts worth millions of dollars. The money is believed to have disappeared because the bank used it in losing investments.

This will link to the country's housing crisis. More than 300 housing projects in more than 100 cities lost funding after customers stopped paying mortgages. In urban areas in China, an average of 78% of the people's personal savings go to housing before it is even completed. Like banks, housing capitalists also used customers' money for other investments. By initial estimate, it totals more than $100 million. AB